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Ag 862



## NOTICE!

TO ALL RAILROAD COMPANIES TRANSPORTING CATTLE WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.

U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Office of the Secretary,
Washington, D. C., March 17, 1897.

The attention of the officers of all railroad companies engaged in the transportation of live stock from one State or Territory into another, or whose roads form any part of a line of road transporting live stock from one State or Territory into another, is directed to the following sections of the Revised Statutes hereto annexed, viz., Sections 4386, 4387, 4388, and 4389.

Complaint has been made to this Department, by its officers supervising the movement of animals in the interstate and export trade, that the provisions of the foregoing sections are not complied with by many railroad companies, and that cattle and other live stock are confined in cars for a period exceeding twenty-eight hours, and that at times when they are unloaded they are not allowed the five consecutive hours for rest required by statute.

The failure of the railroad companies to conform to this law causes animals great suffering while in transit to points of destination, which it is the intent of the law to prevent. Railroad companies will therefore make such arrangements as are necessary in their train service, and provide the necessary feeding and watering stations to comply with the above-named sections of the Revised Statutes, and any failure to do this will render them liable on conviction to the penalty provided in Section 4388.

James Wilson Secretary.

[FOR SECTIONS 4386-4389 REVISED STATUTES, SEE OVER.]

## SECTIONS OF REVISED STATUTES OF UNITED STATES REFERRED TO IN NOTICE.

SEC. 4386. No railroad company within the United States whose road forms any part of a line of road over which cattle, sheep, swine, or other animals are conveyed from one State to another, or the owners or masters of steam, sailing, or other vessels carrying or transporting cattle, sheep, swine, or other animals from one State to another, shall confine the same in cars, boats, or vessels of any description for a longer period than twenty-eight consecutive hours, without unloading the same for rest, water, and feeding for a period of at least five consecutive hours, unless prevented from unloading by storm or other accidental causes. In estimating such confinement the time during which the animals have been confined without such rest on connecting roads from which they are received shall be included, it being the intent of this section to prohibit their continuous confinement beyond the period of twenty-eight hours, except upon contingencies hereinbefore stated.

SEC. 4387. Animals so unloaded shall be properly fed and watered during such rest by the owner or person having the custody thereof, or in case of his default in so doing, then by the railroad company or owners or masters of boats or vessels transporting the same, at the expense of the owner or person in custody thereof; and such company, owners, or masters shall in such case have a lien upon such animals for food, care, and custody furnished, and shall not be liable for any detention of such animals.

SEC. 4388. Any company, owner, or custodian of such animals who knowingly and willingly fails to comply with the provisions of the two preceding sections shall, for every such failure, be liable for and forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars. But when animals are carried in cars, boats, or other vessels in which they can and do have proper food, water, space, and opportunity to rest, the provisions in regard to their being unloaded shall not apply.

SEC. 4389. The penalty created by the preceding section shall be recovered by civil action in the name of the United States, in the circuit or district court of the United States, holden within the district where the violation may have been committed, or the person or corporation resides or carries on its business; and it shall be the duty of all United States marshals, their deputies and subordinates, to prosecute all violations which come to their notice or knowledge.